UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1995/83/Add.2
29 June 1995

Original: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1995
Geneva, 26 June-28 July 1995
Item 10 of the provisional agenda

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations on its second session

Addendum

Programme budget implications of the draft decision entitled "General review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations"

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council

1. At its second session, the Open-Ended Working Group on the Review of Arrangements for Consultations with Non-Governmental Organizations decided to recommend to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of a draft decision entitled "General review of arrangements for consultations with non-governmental organizations".

2. Under the terms of the draft decision, the Council would decide:

(a) To extend the mandate of the Working Group for a period of one year, with a meeting time of not less than two weeks, and requested the Working Group to present its final report to the Council at its substantive session of 1996;

(b) That starting in 1996, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations should meet annually and, as required, on an ad hoc basis, should that be necessary for the prompt discharge of its duties.

3. With regard to the activities of the Working Group, it is envisaged that a two-week session would be held in New York in January 1996. The meeting would require interpretation and documentation (5 pages pre-session, 20 pages in-session and 100 pages post-session) services in all 6 official languages. These requirements are estimated on a full-cost basis in the amount of $251,100.

4. With regard to the activities of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, it is envisaged that one additional session of two weeks' duration would be held during the biennium 1996-1997. Interpretation services in all 6 official languages and documentation services would be required as follows: 500 pages pre-session in English, French and Spanish and 5 pages in-session and 20 pages post-session in all 6 official languages. These requirements are estimated on a full-cost basis in the amount of $391,900.

5. The total conference-servicing requirements for the above meetings ($643,000) would be dealt with within the overall provisions for conference-servicing of United Nations meetings and conferences, contained in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. The actual conference-servicing costs of the meetings would be reported to the General Assembly in the context of the programme budget performance report. No additional funds would therefore be required at the present stage.